7. (Amended) An information management system according to claim 1, in which the [APS] _information management system_ provides an open Interface Manager for the creation, deletion or modification of _the_ [information or] entity profiles that are used with online service systems through stories.

8. (Amended) An information management system according to claim 1, in which the [APS] _information management system_ provides a trigger mechanism for the creation, deletion or modification of _the_ [information] _entity profiles_ outside of the directory server [thus] enabling information distribution to billing systems, databases and workflow management.

9. (Amended) An information management system according to claim 1, in which the [APS] _information management system_ provides a reporting mechanism for information.

10. (Amended) An information management system according to claim 1, which provides information in a directory for the allocation of IP addresses, gateway and DNS server configuration to a workstation via a directory enabled DHCP server.

11. (Amended) An information management system according to claim 1, that provides for the management of configuration information for access control to an online services system.

12. (Amended) An information management system according to claim 1, [that requires] _further comprising_ authentication of entities prior to the provision of services to an entity using an online service system.

13. (Amended) An information management system according to claim 1, in which the [APS can be] _information management system is_ scaled by the addition of further [APS] _information management system_ components to provide a global infrastructure for a computer network system.

14. (Amended) An information management system according to claim 1, in which the [APS] _information management system_ provides a user guide to communicate the function of the